

University of Rhode Island
The Graduate School
Graduate Council Meeting No. 410, March 31, 2006
MINUTES

Council Members Present: *Cristin Ashmankas, Stephen Barber, Katie Branch, Josie Campbell, David Heskett, Chong Lee, Thomas Needham, Daniel Sheinin, David Smith, Sarina Wyant, Evelyn Yeaw*

Others Present: *Vice Provost Lynn Pasquerella, Associate Dean Harold Bibb, Ms. Ruth Gormly, Lisa Lancellotta, Arun Tekalur*

- I. *The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m.* by Associate Dean Harold Bibb.
- II. *The Minutes of Meeting No. 409* were approved.
- III. *Vice Provost Discussion Items*
 - A. Vice Provost Pasquerella will attend a regional meeting of the Council of Graduate Schools next week in Washington to report on the progress of the URI Research Ethics Fellows Program. This will be used to provide a model for other institutions.
 - B. On Monday, April 20, a Welcome Reception was held at the University Club for the University to meet Dr. Padma Ventkatraman, the new Coordinator for Diversity at the Graduate School. Vice Provost Pasquerella thanked all who attended.
 - C. The minutes of the Graduate Council meetings are now available on the Faculty Senate website.
 - D. Vice Provost Pasquerella announced that research funds are up \$16.6 million over last year at this time.
 - E. Vice Provost Pasquerella announced a call for nominations for four Distinguished Dissertation awards offered by the Graduate School to be awarded in May. The competition is modeled after the Council of Graduate Schools Distinguished Dissertation Awards. URI submitted nominations last year to the CGS and will do so again this year. Departments are asked to submit nominations for these awards to the Graduate School. Cash prizes will be awarded, and the names of the nominees will be announced at the Graduate commencement ceremony.

IV. Announcements

- A. Associate Dean Harold Bibb announced the appointment of the following individuals to the Graduate Faculty:
 - Dr. Kenneth Broad – Marine Affairs
 - Dr. Stephanie Dunson – English
 - Dr. Rachid Jennane - Engineering

- B. Associate Dean Bibb announced that a new proposal has been received for a Post-baccalaureate certificate in Digital Forensics. It has been forwarded to Council of Deans and the Budget Office for comment. The proposal must also be reviewed by the New Program Committee.

V. *Committee Reports*

A. Curriculum Committee

i. New Business

STEM Programs (other than Psychology) – Presented by Dr. David Heskett

New Courses Approved:

GEO 497 Field Experience in the Geological Sciences

NFS 580 Experiential Learning in Nutrition and Food Sciences

CVE 542 Traffic Systems Operations

ELE 438/CSC 418 Information and Network Security

Deletions Approved:

BCH 522 Plant Molecular Biology (1 Nay Vote)

Changes Approved:

AFS 500 Diseases of Aquatic Organisms – change in numbering

AFS/AVS 503 Pathobiology – change in numbering

AFS 576 Seminar in Genetics of Aquatic Organisms – change in numbering

Minor Changes in MS and Ph.D. Program Requirements for Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering

Proposal Approved:

Add non-thesis option to MS in Nutrition

Items Tabled (prerequisite was not required for ELE 565 – could take lab without course ELE 564):

New Courses:

ELE 564 Medical Imaging

ELE 565 Medical Image Processing Laboratory

Deletions:

ELE 488 Biomedical Engineering I (tabled because of above)

ELE 588 Biomedical Engineering I (tabled because of above)

ii. Non STEM Programs (plus Psychology) – Presented by Dr. Daniel Sheinin

New Business

New Courses Approved:

ENG 511 Introduction to Professional Study II

Changes Approved:

ENG 510 Introduction to Professional Study – change in course title, credits and grading method (Approved by majority vote)

KIN 410 Adapted Physical Education – change in prerequisite

KIN 430 Adapted Aquatics – change in prerequisite

Changes to admission requirements for the MLIS Program:
Revised MBA Curriculum Change Proposal Approved:
BAC 500 Computing for Management – remove requirement
BAC 520 Mathematical Methods for Management – remove requirement
MBA Program – remove one elective and redefine concentrations

Proposal Approved:
Early Contingent Admission to the DPT Program

Deletion Approved:
KIN 416 Aging and Leisure

Item Tabled:
ENG 489 Literature and Empire – justification for graduate credit

Old Business:
Course Approved: PSY 635 Transtheoretical Model Applied to Health Psychology

VI. *Presentation by S. Arjun Tekalur, Graduate Student*

At the request of Associate Dean Bibb, Graduate Student Arjun Tekalur presented a report on the quality of Graduate Student Housing at URI. Some of the graduate students' areas of concern include: affordability, quality of housing, effectiveness in serving the needs of the graduate students, health and safety issues at the Graduate Village and concerns for new graduate students arriving from other states/countries. Arjun suggested that future housing considerations should include: clear information for prospective students, availability/creation of various housing options, streamlining the housing process, and active participation by graduate students in deciding key issues. Arjun will be meeting with the President next month to discuss these concerns, and he has already presented them to the Housing Department. Vice Provost Lynn Pasquerella agreed to bring these issues forward to the Provost and the President. She noted that health and safety issues and access to parking at the Graduate Village after 5:00 pm should be addressed immediately. Prof. Stephen Barber agreed to help. Vice Provost Pasquerella will call a meeting with appropriate directors to address the health and safety issues presented. Associate Dean Bibb thanked Arjun Tekalur for his presentation.

VII. *Adjournment*

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.